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December 20, 2001

Commissioner of Patents
Box REISSUE
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: REISSUE Patent Application
APPLICANT: JAMES ALTADONNA
FOR: NASAL AIR FRESHENER FOR DENTAL PATIENTS
US PATENT NO. 6,015,425 OF JANUARY 18, 2000

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find reissue patent application including Reissue Transmittal PTO/SB/50 Specification, Claims, and Abstract, in double column format with Amended text, Drawings (3 sheets), Reissue Fee transmittal form PTO/SB/56, Reissue Declaration PTO/SB/51 and Supplemental Declaration PTO/SB/515.

Applicant offers to surrender original U.S. Patent No. 6,015,425.

Check in the amount of \$472.00

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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Date: *Dec. 20* 2001

Pat trans utility appl



Alfred M. Walker

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APPLICANT: JAMES ALTADONNA

FOR: NASAL AIR FRESHENER FOR DENTAL PATIENTS

US PATENT NO. 6,015,425 of January 18, 2000

REISSUE PATENT APPLICATION

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → ☐

PTO/SB/50 (02-01)

Approved for use through 01/31/2004. OMB 0651-0033

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REISSUE PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

Address to:

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Attorney Docket No.	ALTADONNA, Jr. Reissue
First Named Inventor	James Altadonna
Original Patent Number	6,015,425
Original Patent Issue Date (Month/Day/Year)	January 18, 2000
Express Mail Label No.	

APPLICATION FOR REISSUE OF:
(Check applicable box)



Utility Patent



Design Patent



Plant Patent

APPLICATION ELEMENTS (37 CFR 1.173)

1. ☒ Fee Transmittal Form (PTO/SB/56)
(Submit an original, and a duplicate for fee processing)
2. ☒ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.
3. ☒ Specification and Claims in double column copy of patent format (amended, if appropriate)
4. ☒ Drawing(s) (proposed amendments, if appropriate)
5. ☒ Reissue Oath/Declaration (original or copy)
(37 C.F.R. § 1.175) (PTO/SB/51 or 52)
6. ☒ Power of Attorney
7. Original U.S. Patent currently assigned? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(If Yes, check applicable box(es))
☐ Written Consent of all Assignees (PTO/SB/53)
☐ 37 C.F.R. § 3.73(b) Statement (PTO/SB/96)
8. ☐ CD-ROM or CD-R in duplicate, Computer Program (Appendix) or large table
9. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission
(if applicable, all of the following are necessary)
 - a. ☐ Computer Readable Form (CFR)
 - b. Specification Sequence Listing on:
 - i ☐ CD-ROM (2 copies) or CD-R (2 copies); or
 - ii ☐ paper
 - c. ☐ Statements verifying identity of above copies

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS

10. ☒ Statement of status and support for all changes to the claims. See 37 CFR 1.173 (c).
11. ☒ Original U.S. Patent for surrender
☒ Ribbioned Original Patent Grant
☐ Statement of Loss (PTO/SB/55)
12. ☐ Foreign Priority Claim (35 U.S.C. 119)
(if applicable)
13. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 ☐ Copies of IDS Citations
14. ☐ English Translation of Reissue Oath/Declaration
(if applicable)
15. ☐ Preliminary Amendment
16. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503)
(Should be specifically itemized)
17. Other:

18. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS



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or ☐ Correspondence address below

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NAME (Print/Type)	Alfred M. Walker	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	29,983
Signature	<i>Alfred M. Walker</i>	Date	December 19, 2001

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REISSUE APPLICATION FEE TRANSMITTAL FORM						Docket Number (Optional)		
Claims as Filed - Part 1								
Claims In Patent		Number Filed in Reissue Application	(3) Number Extra	Small Entity		Other than a Small Entity		
				Rate	Fee	Rate	Fee	
(A) 11	Total Claims (37 CFR 1.16(j))	(B) 22	**** 2 =	x \$ 9 =	18	or	x \$ =	
(C) 3	Independent claims (37 CFR 1.16(i))	(D) 5	• 2 =	x \$ 42 =	84		x \$ =	
Basic Fee (37 CFR 1.16(h))					\$ 370			\$ =
Total Filing Fee					\$ 472		OR \$ =	
Claims as Amended - Part 2								
	(1) Claims Remaining After Amendment		(2) Highest Number Previously Paid For	(3) Extra Claims Present	Small Entity		Other than a Small Entity	
					Rate	Fee	Rate	Fee
Total Claims (37 CFR 1.16(j))	***	MINUS	**	=	x \$ =		x \$ =	
Independent Claims (37 CFR 1.16(i))	***	MINUS	*****	=	x \$ =		x \$ =	
Total Additional Fee					\$		OR \$	
<p>* If the entry in (D) is less than the entry in (C), Write "0" in column 3.</p> <p>** If the "Highest Number of Total Claims Previously Paid For" is less than 20, Write "20" in this space.</p> <p>*** After any cancellation of claims.</p> <p>**** If "A" is greater than 20, use (B - A); if "A" is 20 or less, use (B - 20).</p> <p>***** "Highest Number of Independent Claims Previously Paid For" or Number of Independent Claims in Patent (C).</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <u>23-0120</u>. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ <u>430</u> to cover the filing / additional fee is enclosed.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 20px;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p><u>December 19</u> <u>November</u>, 2001</p> <p>Date</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%; text-align: center;"> <p><u>Alfred M. Walker</u> Signature of Applicant, Attorney or Agent of Record</p> <p>Alfred M. Walker Typed or printed name</p> <p>Reg No. 29,983</p> </div> </div>								

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REISSUE APPLICATION DECLARATION BY THE INVENTOR

Docket Number (Optional)

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address and citizenship are stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is described and claimed

in patent number 6,015,425, granted January 18, 2000, and for which a
reissue patent is sought on the invention entitled NASAL AIR FRESHENER FOR DENTAL PATIENTS

the specification of which

☒ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed on _____ as reissue application number _____ / _____
and was amended on _____
(if applicable)

I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims,
as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in
37 CFR 1.56.

I verily believe the original patent to be wholly or partly inoperative or invalid, for the reasons described
below. (Check all boxes that apply.)

☒ by reason of a defective specification or drawing.

☒ by reason of the patentee claiming more or less than he had the right to claim in the patent.

☐ by reason of other errors.

At least one error upon which reissue is based is described below. If the reissue is a broadening
reissue, such must be stated with an explanation as to the nature of the broadening:

The specification notes at column 3, lines 23-29 that the
intra-nasal clip can be used for persons other than dental patients,
as noted in the preamble of the Claims of the issued patent. For
example, the intra-nasal clip can be used for persons exposed to
foul odors in the work environment, such as at crime scene
investigators, autopsies, sewage systems and hazardous occupational
environments.

Applicant also amends Claim 7 to make it dependent upon
Claim 1.

[Page 1 of 2]

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(REISSUE APPLICATION DECLARATION BY THE INVENTOR, page 2)

Docket Number (Optional)

All errors corrected in this reissue application arose without any deceptive intention on the part of the applicant. As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Name(s) Registration Number
Alfred M. Walker 29,983

Correspondence Address: Direct all communications about the application to:

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine and imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this declaration is directed.

Full name of sole or first inventor (given name, family name) <u>James Altadonna, Jr.</u>	
Inventor's signature 	Date <u>November 30</u> , 2001
Residence <u>203 Whitewood Drive</u> <u>Massapequa, NY 11762</u>	Citizenship <u>USA</u>
Mailing Address <u>203 Whitewood Drive, Massapequa, NY 11762</u>	

Full name of second joint inventor (given name, family name)	
Inventor's signature	Date
Residence	Citizenship
Mailing Address	

Full name of third joint inventor (given name, family name)	
Inventor's signature	Date
Residence	Citizenship
Mailing Address	

☐ Additional joint inventors are named on separately numbered sheets attached hereto.

Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box → 

PTO/SB/51S (02-01)

Approved for use through 01/31/2004. OMB 0651-0033

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SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION FOR REISSUE PATENT APPLICATION TO CORRECT "ERRORS" STATEMENT (37 CFR 1.175)	Attorney Docket Number	
	First Named Inventor	James Altadonna, Jr.
	COMPLETE	
	Application Number	/
	Filing Date	
	Group Art Unit	
	Examiner Name	

I/We hereby declare that:

Every error in the patent which was corrected in the present reissue application, and which is not covered by the prior oath(s) and/or declaration(s) submitted in this application, arose without any deceptive intention on the part of the applicant.

I/We hereby declare that all statements made herein of my/our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Name of Sole or First Inventor:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle (if any))		Family Name or Surname	
James		Altadonna, Jr.	
Inventor's Signature		Date	Nov 30 2001
Name of Second Inventor:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle (if any))		Family Name or Surname	
Inventor's Signature		Date	
Name of Third Inventor:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle (if any))		Family Name or Surname	
Inventor's Signature		Date	
Name of Fourth Inventor:		<input type="checkbox"/> A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor	
Given Name (first and middle (if any))		Family Name or Surname	
Inventor's Signature		Date	

☐ Additional inventors are being named on the _____ supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached hereto.

[Page 1 of 1]

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NASAL AIR FRESHENER FOR [DENTAL PATIENTS] MALODOROUS ENVIRONMENTS

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to an odor-desensitizing intra-nasal clip for dental-patients.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Dental patients often complain about foul odors associated with certain procedures. The source of the odor is generally acknowledged to be bacterial decay within the mouth due to high temperatures generated by the drilling of teeth. The present invention reduces or completely masks the unpleasant odors in a convenient and aggressive manner.

Nose clips are known, but they are generally used to hold the nostrils closed, as in swimming or surgical procedures, as discussed in U.S. Pat. No. 4,231,360 of Zloczynski, and U.S. Pat. No. 4,445,508 of Lake.

To reduce malodorous mouth odors, various formulations in the form of tablets, liquids, or other medicants are applied to the mucosal cavities of the user's mouth, such as disclosed in U.S. Pat. No. 4,303,648 of Witzel, U.S. Pat. No. 4,606,912 of Rudy, or U.S. Pat. No. 5,281,415 of Suzuki. But these cannot be applied during dental procedures, except by intermittent spraying or ingesting into the patient's mouth.

However, odor reducing filter masks are known, but these generally cover the whole face or the whole nose, as in U.S. Pat. No. 5,636,629 of Patterson for a filter mask.

Other odor reducing filter masks which cover the face or the nostrils of the nose include U.S. Pat. No. 5,392,773 of Bertrand and U.S. Pat. No. 5,740,798 of McKinney for filter masks that cover and mask the outer nostril end of the nose. Masks which cover the whole nose include U.S. Pat. No. 5,243,708 of Vanuch and U.S. Pat. No. 5,697,105 of White.

Moreover, U.S. Pat. No. 5,636,628 of Barnum discloses a mask to counteract odors that includes a cloth substrate covering the nose and mouth of the user, wherein the cloth substrate is held over the face by ear pieces which tie around the ears.

U.S. Pat. No. 5,538,013 of Brannon describes a mask with a scenting means. However, the mask of Brannon '013 covers at least the whole nose of the user.

In addition, U.S. Pat. No. 5,503,167 of Wilson et al. discloses a face shield covering the whole face of a user, wherein the user holds the face shield by gripping a mouth-piece between the user's teeth.

Furthermore, U.S. Pat. No. 4,267,831 of Aguilar and U.S. Pat. No. 5,417,205 of Wang describe nasal air filters and medicament dispenser devices, wherein two medication dispensing tubes are provided, one for insertion into each nostril. The problem with Aguilar '831 and Wang '205 is that the cylindrical outer surfaces of each tube completely block each nostril, thus increasing discomfort and preventing normal breathing through the nostrils.

However, these face coverings or nose covering masks are bulky and interfere with normal breathing during dental procedures.

OBJECTS OF THE INVENTION

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide an odor-desensitizing intra-nasal clip for dental patients, which can be inserted in to the nasal passages.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a bendable arcuate band for dental patients having odor emitting pads affixed thereon.

It is also an object provide a convenient odor emitting nasal clip which is compact and comfortable to wear, without interfering with normal breathing during dental procedures.

It is yet another object of the present invention to provide an odor emitting band which is pleasant and comfortable to wear during dental procedures.

It is yet another object of the present invention to provide an odor emitting intra-nasal clip for contacting the respective right and left sides of a user's nasal septum during dental procedures.

It is another object of the present invention to provide for an odor-emitting intra-nasal clip with ends which are separated from contact with the surface of the user's nasal septum.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a nasal clip having odor-emitting pads with odorant absorbed there within.

It is yet another object of the present invention to provide an assembly of odor-emitting nasal clips in a plurality of attached, user-detachable sealed packaging pouches, wherein a single nasal clip is enclosed within each packaging pouch.

It is yet another object of the present invention to provide sterile packaging pouches for odor-emitting nasal clips with an odor and oxygen barrier.

It is another object of the present invention to provide packaging pouches for odor-emitting nasal clips with which can be torn off individually.

It is a further object of the present invention to alter a dental patient's exposure to foul odors during a dental procedure.

It is yet another object of the present invention to provide an odor-emitting nasal clip with a pleasant-smelling odorant.

It is yet another object of the present invention to provide an odor-emitting nasal clip which does not interfere with normal breathing through the nostrils of the nose.

It is yet another object of the present invention to improve over the disadvantages of the prior art.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In keeping with these objects and others which may become apparent, the present odor desensitizing intra-nasal clip for dental patients, includes a bendable arcuate band extending between its outer distal ends, wherein the ends having odor-emitting pads affixed thereon.

The band has an inner surface which is coextensive with the band. The inner surface contacts the respective right and left sides of a user's nasal septum when the distal ends of the nasal clip are inserted into a user's right and left nostrils, with the band wrapped around the distal end of the dental patient's nasal septum.

The band preferably includes a pair of reverse curvatures near its outer distal ends. The reverse curvatures separate the ends from contact with the surface of the user's nasal septum.

The intra-nasal clip has odor-emitting pads, such as a pair of absorbent pads attached to the outer distal ends of the nasal clip, with pleasant smelling odorant absorbed there within.

The coating may be a of soft material, such as fabric or soft synthetic plastics.

The intra-nasal clip is flexible, spring-like and semi-rigid, and is made of a flexible spring-like and semi-rigid material, such as aluminum or plastic.

The nasal clip should be preferably packaged in a sterile environment, such as in a plurality of attached, user-detachable sealed packaging pouches wherein a single nasal clip is enclosed within each packaging pouch. To retain freshness, each packaging pouch includes an odor and oxygen barrier.

To remove a packaged nasal clip, each packaging pouch has a weakening seam for facilitating user tear-off of individual packaging pouches as desired, such as perforations between each packaging pouch.

Furthermore, the odor emitting nasal clip of the present invention alters dental patient's exposure to foul odors during a dental procedure, by masking dental bacterial odors. The nasal clips are used by inserting each end into a respective nostril of the user, wherein the nasal clip is held in place within the nostrils of the user, by clamping against the nasal septum.

Therefore, the present invention includes a miniature air freshener designed to be attached to the distal end of the nasal septum. It applies a pleasant scent directly within the nostrils.

Such a convenient, inexpensive, and effective personal air freshener can have other applications besides the dental usage described above. There are several situations which expose practitioners to environments with intense vile odors. Examples of such occupational hazards include crime scene investigations, autopsies of decaying cadavers, and work associated with sewage systems.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The present invention can best be understood in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the nasal air freshener of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a side view of a facial profile of a user with air freshener of the present invention in use;

FIG. 3 is a front cross section detail of nasal passages showing the installation of the nasal air freshener of the present invention;

FIG. 4 is an exploded front elevational view of the nasal air freshener;

FIG. 5 is a perspective view of the nasal air freshener in preferred packaging and,

FIG. 6 is side elevational view of a nasal air freshener clip in an alternate embodiment.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

FIG. 1 shows nasal air freshener 1 of the present invention, which includes bendable frame 2 with distal frame ends 5 covered with absorbent pads 3. Inside surface 4 of frame 2 contacts the distal end of the nasal septum. When worn, (as shown in FIG. 2) nasal air freshener 1 is hardly visible, as shown worn by user 10 within nose 11. More importantly, nasal air freshener 1 does not protrude from the end of nose 11. This is important especially for dental procedures requiring the use of a cotton roll under the upper lip, since any protrusions of nasal filter coverings as in the prior art would interfere with the dentist's procedures and be uncomfortable for the patient.

FIG. 3 is a cross sectional detail view showing the internal nasal passages with nasal air freshener 1 in place. Open nostrils 19 and 20 are formed between outer sides 15, 15a of nose 11 and nasal septum 16. Distal end 17 of nasal septum

16 is somewhat bulbous. Sides, 2a, 2b of frame 2 of nasal air freshener 1 are pressed together by the user so that they form neck 18, bending around end 17 of nasal septum 16 to retain nasal air freshener 1 in place.

Absorbent pads 3 are prominently positioned within the air flow within open nostrils 19 and 20 without significantly blocking these passages.

FIG. 4 shows an exploded view of nasal air freshener 1. The material of frame member 2 is preferably a flexible material, such as ductile aluminum, with very little spring temper. Frame number 2 is die cut and formed. If frame number 2 is then tumbled to remove any sharp edges, it can be used directly. A bendable plastic may be used as an alternative. Optionally, fabric layer 25 can be adhesively bonded to inside surface 4 of frame 2 as a more comfortable cushion against the sensitive skin of nasal septum end 17. Absorbent pads 3 are die cut from a cushion-like material such as a dense cotton felt or a semi-rigid polyurethane foam or similar material. Absorbent pads 3 are then adhesively bonded to frame ends 5 in recesses 26. Pads 3 are then adapted to support an odor emitting material such as by being dipped in a fragrant liquid during the manufacturing process. Alternatively, pads 3 maybe attached to an outer surface (not shown) of frame ends 5 by other conventional attaching means.

Unlike the prior art filter masks that cover the entire nostril opening or nose itself, air freshener 1 is an intra-nasal device which is inserted within nostril 19 and 20, not over nostrils 19 and 20.

Although many alternatives are available for packaging of nasal air freshener 1 of the present invention, the preferred package is a heat sealed pouch as is commonly used for automobile air fresheners. Since the invention is of small dimensions, an automatic machine continuous belt package (as is often used for candy lollipops) would be most convenient, especially for a dental office. Such package 30 is shown in FIG. 5. Film material 31 can be a suitable packaging material, such as a polyester film of du Pont Corporation of Delaware. Material is automatically heat sealed at edges 32 and perforated at perforations 33 for easy tear-off, thus creating a number of odor and oxygen barriers which keep the scent of absorbent pads 3 enclosed and protect the active ingredient from oxidation.

Nasal air freshener 1 can be activated with a variety of scents. In addition, nasal air freshener 1 is very easy to apply and to remove, and is inexpensive to manufacture and package.

It is further noted that other modifications may be made to the present invention, without departing from the scope of the invention, as noted in the appended Claims.

I claim:

1. An odor desensitizing intra-nasal clip for dental patients, comprising:

a bendable arcuate band extending between distal ends, said ends having odor-emitting means affixed thereon; said band having an inner surface coextensive with said band, said inner surface for intra-nasal contacting the respective right and left sides of a user's nasal septum, when said distal ends are inserted into a user's right and left nostrils with said band wrapped around the distal end of the nasal septum;

said band having a pair of reverse curvatures near said respective distal ends, said reverse curvatures providing for separation of said ends from contact with the surface of the user's nasal septum.

2. The intra-nasal clip of claim 1 wherein said odor-emitting means comprises a pair of absorbent pads attached to said distal ends; said pads having an odorant absorbed therewithin.

3. The intra-nasal clip of claim 2 wherein said inner surface is provided with a coating of soft material.

4. The intra-nasal clip of claim 3 wherein said soft material comprises fabric.

5. The intra-nasal clip of claim 4 wherein said band is comprised of aluminum.

6. The intra-nasal clip of claim 4 wherein said band is comprised of plastic.

7. An assembly of said intra-nasal clips as in Claim 1 wherein said assembly comprises a plurality of intra-nasal clips contained within a plurality of attached, user-detachable sealed packaging pouches wherein a respective single unit of said clip is enclosed within each respective packaging pouch.

8. The assembly of claim 7 wherein said packaging pouches comprise an odor and oxygen barrier.

9. The assembly of claim 8 wherein said respective packaging pouches have weakening means for facilitating user tear-off of individual packaging pouches as desired.

10. The assembly of claim 9 wherein said weakening means comprises perforations between respective packaging pouches.

11. A method of altering a dental patient's exposure to foul odors during a dental procedure, comprising the steps of:

affixing absorbent pads to the ends of a soft, bendable arcuate band having two ends and a reverse curvature near each respective end;

impregnating said absorbent pads with a pleasant-smelling odorant;

inserting said ends of said band into the nostrils of the dental patient;

wrapping said band around the end of the dental patient's nose;

gently pressing said band into contact with the right and left sides of the inner nasal septum of the user, for grasping contact therebetween;

ensuring that said reverse curvatures near said ends cause separation between the surface of the user's nasal septum and said odorant pads; and

removing said intra-nasal clip at the end of the dental procedure or sooner if desired.

12. An odor desensitizing intra-nasal clip for persons exposed to intense, vile odors, at malodorous locations, including at least one of crime scene investigations, autopsies, sewage systems and hazardous occupational environments, comprising.

a bendable arcuate band extending between distal ends, said ends having odor emitting means affixed thereon;

said band having an inner surface coextensive with said band, said inner surface for intra-nasal contacting the respective right and left sides of a user's nasal septum, when said distal ends are inserted into a user's right and left nostrils with said band wrapped around the distal end of the nasal septum;

said band having a pair of reverse curvatures near said respective distal ends, said reverse curvatures providing for separation of said ends from contact with the surface of the user's nasal septum.

13. The clip of Claim 12 wherein said odor emitting means comprises a pair of absorbent pads attached to said distal ends; said pads having an odorant absorbed therewithin.

14. The clip of claim 13 wherein said inner surface is provided with a coating of soft material.

15. The clip of Claim 14 wherein said soft material comprises fabric.

16. The clip of Claim 12 wherein said band is comprised of aluminum.

17. The clip of Claim 12 wherein said band is comprised of plastic.

18. The intra-nasal clip as in Claim 1 wherein said intra-nasal clip comprises a plurality of intra-nasal clips contained within a plurality of attached, user-detachable sealed packaging pouches wherein a respective single unit of said clip is enclosed within each respective packaging pouch.

19. The device of Claim 18 wherein said packaging pouches comprise an odor and oxygen barrier.

20. The device of Claim 19 wherein said respective packaging pouches have weakening means for facilitating user tear-off of individual packaging pouches as desired.

21. The device of Claim 20 wherein said weakening means comprises perforations between respective packaging pouches.

22. A method of altering a person's exposure to foul odors at malodorous locations, including at least one of crime scene investigations, autopsies, sewage disposal systems and hazardous occupational environments, comprising the steps of:

a. affixing absorbent pads to the ends of a soft, bendable arcuate band having two ends and a reverse curvature near each respective end;

b. impregnating said absorbent pads with a pleasant-smelling odorant;

c. packaging said arcuate band in a sealed pouch having an odor and oxygen barrier;

d. opening said pouch at the beginning of a procedure at the malodorous location;

- e. inserting said ends of said band into the nostrils of the user;
- f. wrapping said band around the end of the user's nose;
- g. gently pressing said band into contact with the right and left sides
of the inner nasal septum of the user, for grasping contact therebetween;
- h. ensuring that said reverse curvatures near said ends cause
separation between the surface of the user's nasal septum and said odorant pads;
and,
- i. removing said clip at the end of the procedure or sooner if desired.

ABSTRACT

An odor desensitizing intra-nasal clip for dental patients includes a bendable arcuate band extending between distal ends. The ends have odor-emitting pads affixed thereon. The band has an inner surface coextensive with the band, wherein the inner surface contacts the respective right and left sides of a user's nasal septum when the outer distal ends are inserted into a user's right and left nostrils, with the band wrapped around the lower distal end of the nasal septum. Preferably, the band has a pair of reverse curvatures near its outer distal ends, so that the reverse curvatures separate the ends from contact with the surface of the user's nasal septum. To mask dental odors during dental procedures, the intra-nasal clip has odor-emitting absorbent pads attached to its distal ends; with odorant absorbed therein.

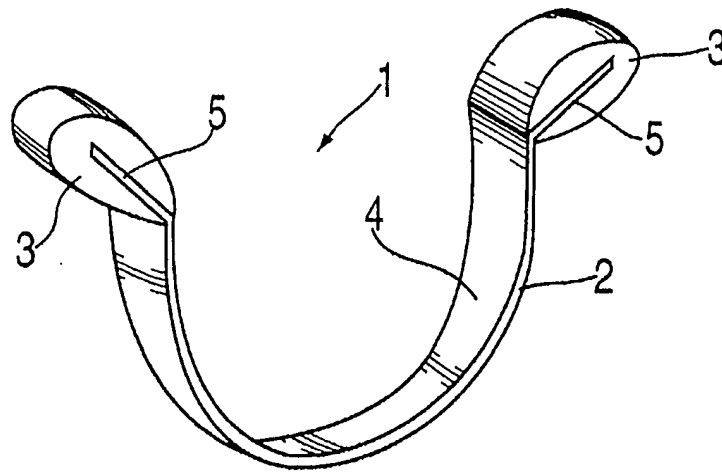


FIG. 1

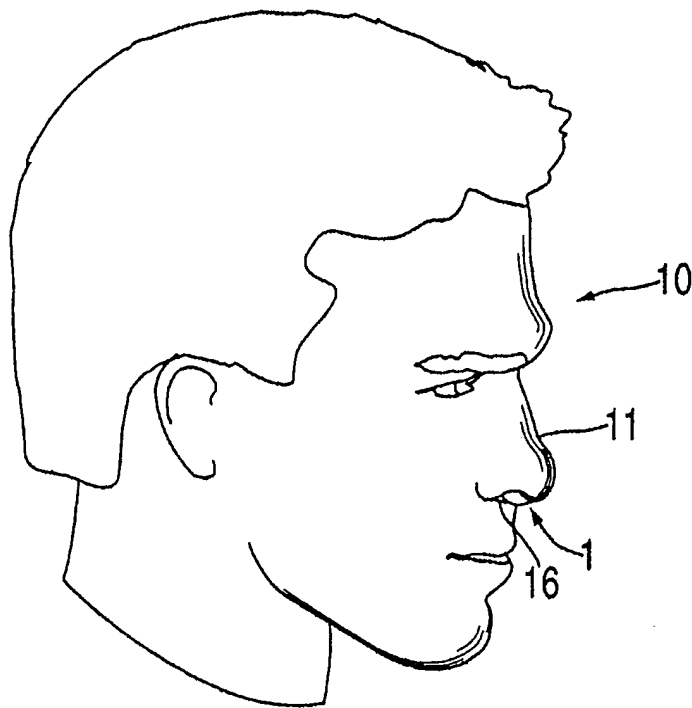


FIG. 2

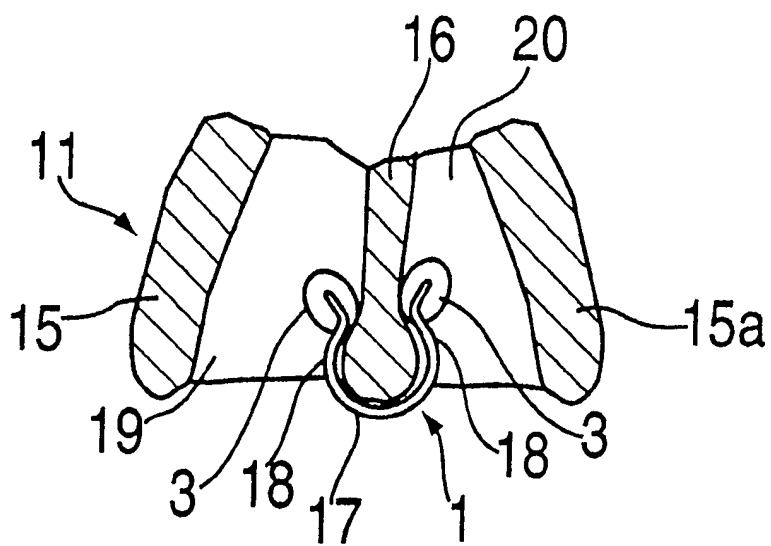


FIG. 3

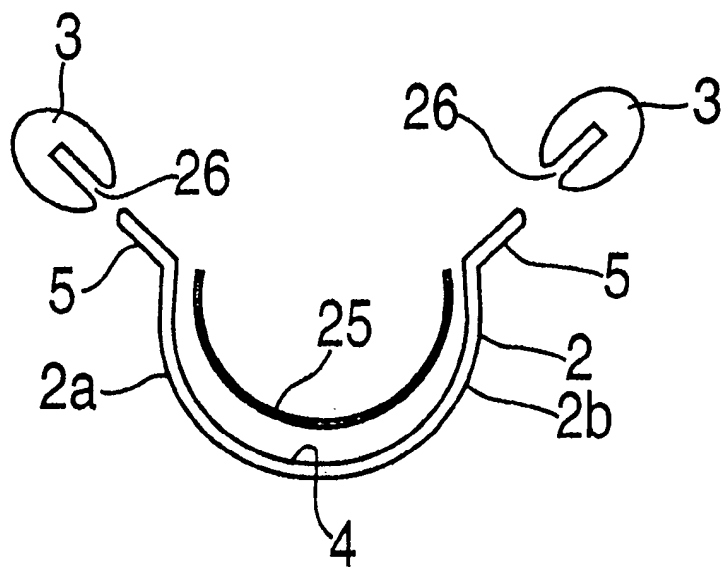


FIG. 4

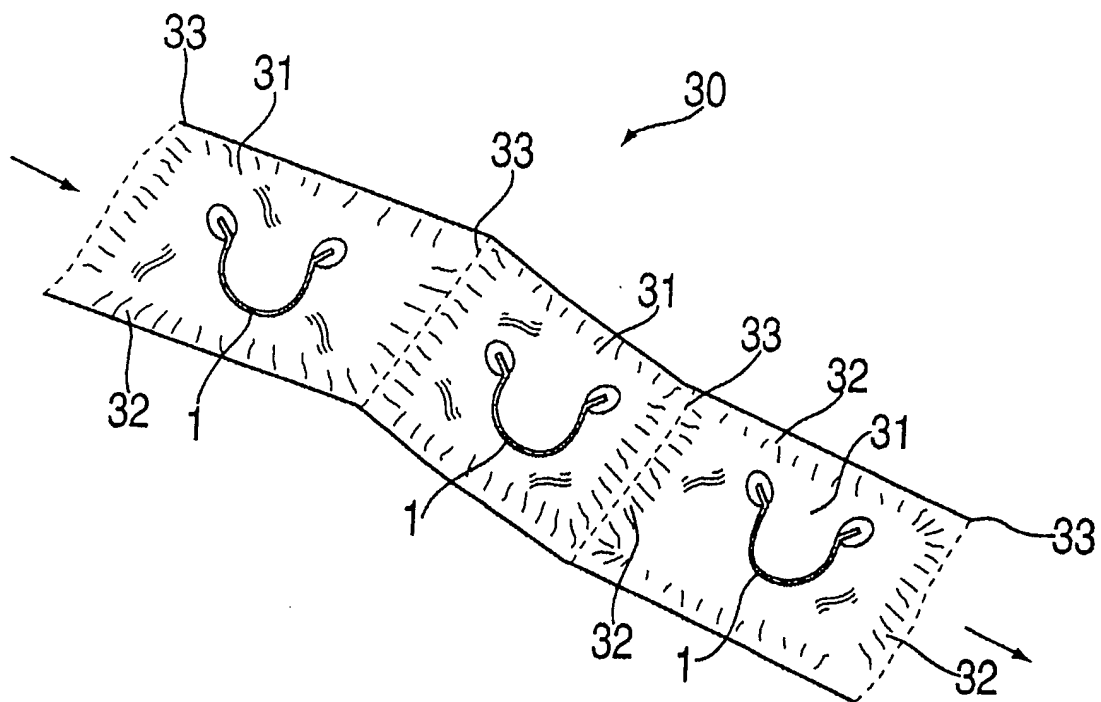


FIG. 5

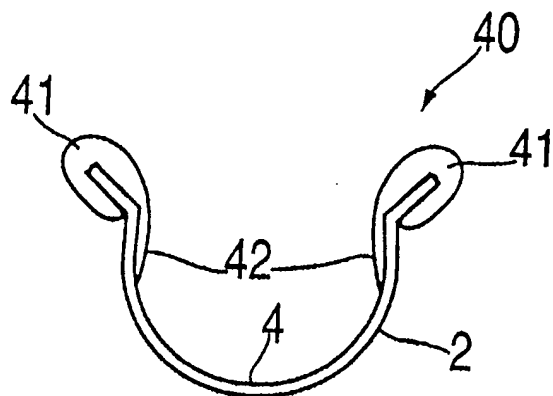


FIG. 6

- e. inserting said ends of said band into the nostrils of the user;
- f. wrapping said band around the end of the user's nose;
- g. gently pressing said band into contact with the right and left sides
of the inner nasal septum of the user, for grasping contact therebetween;
- h. ensuring that said reverse curvatures near said ends cause
separation between the surface of the user's nasal septum and said odorant pads;
and,
- i. removing said clip at the end of the procedure or sooner if desired.

ABSTRACT

An odor desensitizing intra-nasal clip for dental patients includes a bendable arcuate band extending between distal ends. The ends have odor-emitting pads affixed thereon. The band has an inner surface coextensive with the band, wherein the inner surface contacts the respective right and left sides of a user's nasal septum when the outer distal ends are inserted into a user's right and left nostrils, with the band wrapped around the lower distal end of the nasal septum. Preferably, the band has a pair of reverse curvatures near its outer distal ends, so that the reverse curvatures separate the ends from contact with the surface of the user's nasal septum. To mask dental odors during dental procedures, the intra-nasal clip has odor-emitting absorbent pads attached to its distal ends; with odorant absorbed therein.

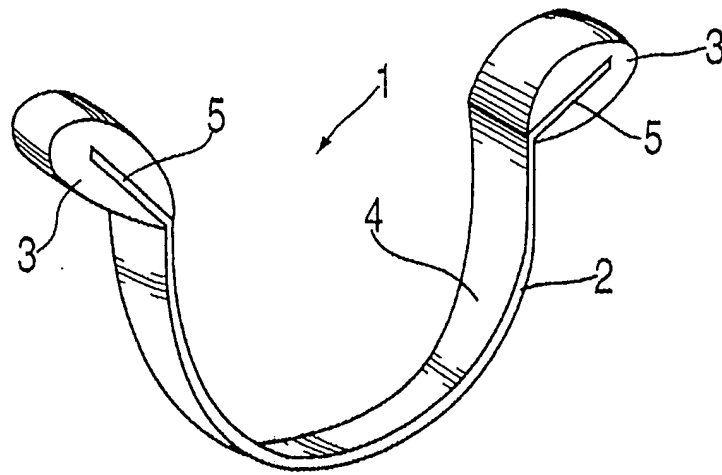


FIG. 1

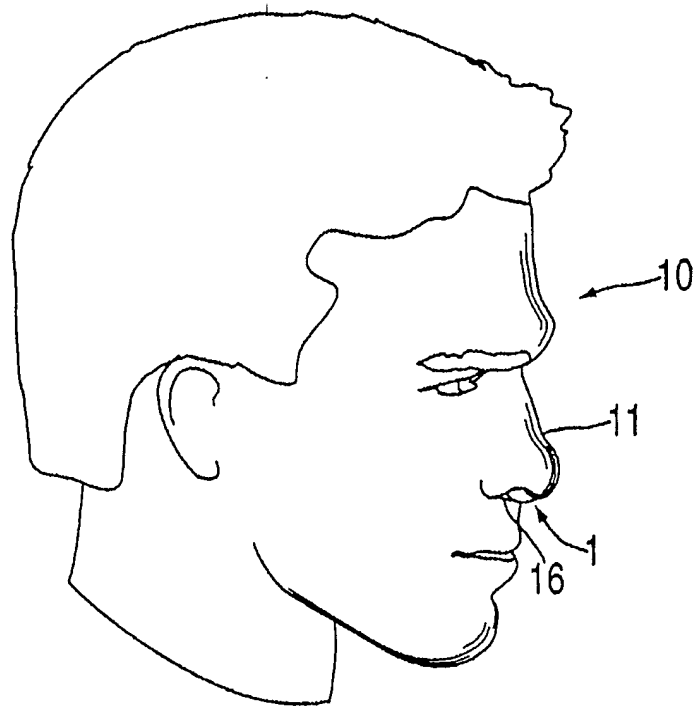


FIG. 2

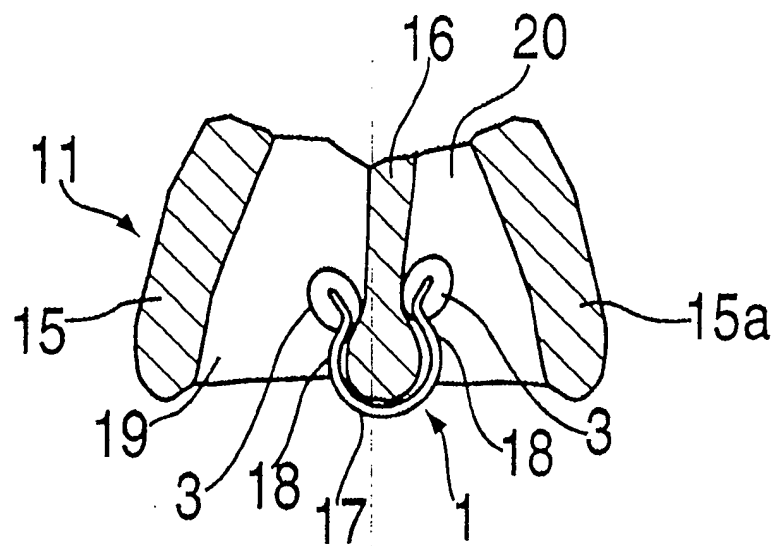


FIG. 3

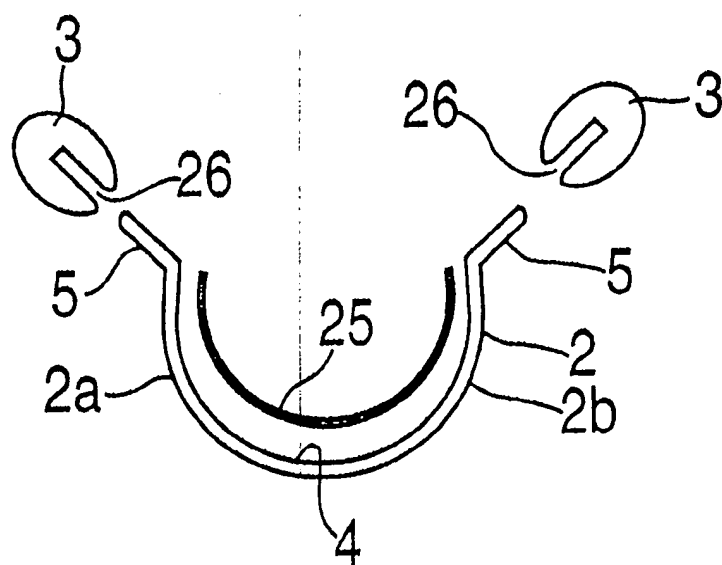


FIG. 4

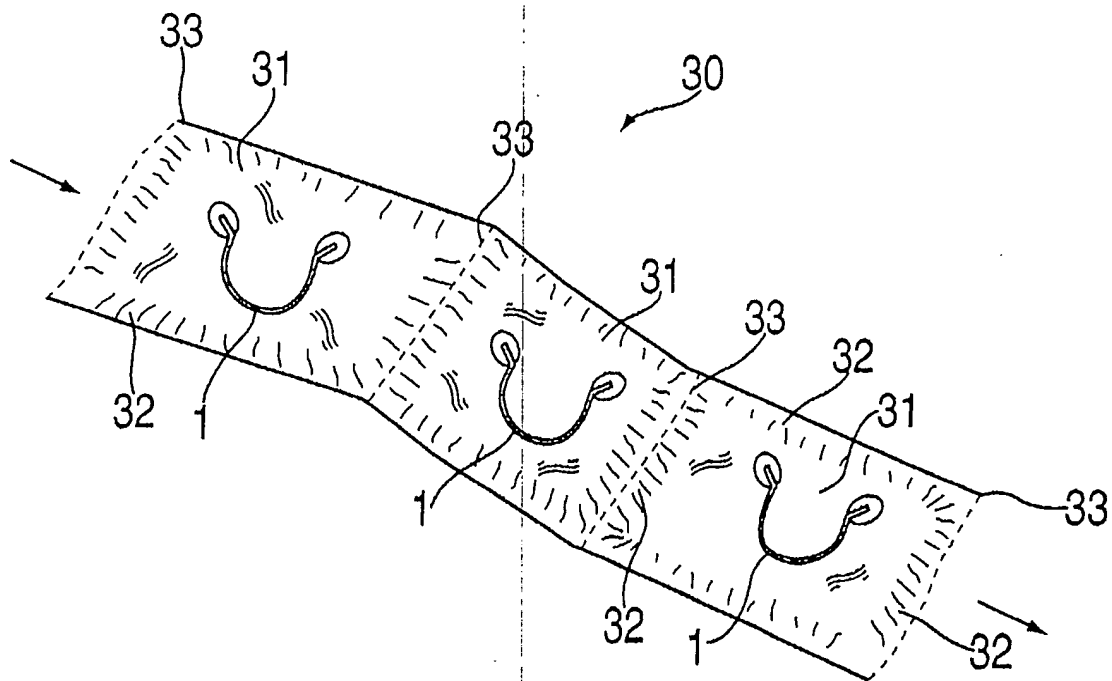


FIG. 5

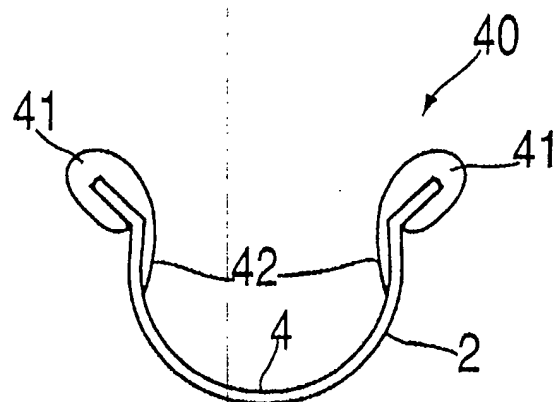


FIG. 6

- e. inserting said ends of said band into the nostrils of the user;
- f. wrapping said band around the end of the user's nose;
- g. gently pressing said band into contact with the right and left sides
of the inner nasal septum of the user, for grasping contact therebetween;
- h. ensuring that said reverse curvatures near said ends cause
separation between the surface of the user's nasal septum and said odorant pads;
and,
- i. removing said clip at the end of the procedure or sooner if desired.

ABSTRACT

An odor desensitizing intra-nasal clip for dental patients includes a bendable arcuate band extending between distal ends. The ends have odor-emitting pads affixed thereon. The band has an inner surface coextensive with the band, wherein the inner surface contacts the respective right and left sides of a user's nasal septum when the outer distal ends are inserted into a user's right and left nostrils, with the band wrapped around the lower distal end of the nasal septum. Preferably, the band has a pair of reverse curvatures near its outer distal ends, so that the reverse curvatures separate the ends from contact with the surface of the user's nasal septum. To mask dental odors during dental procedures, the intra-nasal clip has odor-emitting absorbent pads attached to its distal ends; with odorant absorbed therein.